

IFW

00862.023455.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Is re Application of:

KEN-ICHI OHTA, et al.

Application No.: 10/775,177

Filed: February 11, 2004

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD ) April 7, 2005

Group Art Unit: 2622

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), effective October 21, 2004, copies of the U.S. patent documents (1) to (3) are not provided. A copy of each of the documents (4) to (6) is enclosed.

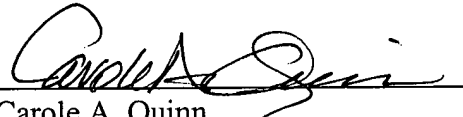
- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,933,823
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,486,686
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 4,748,678
- (4) Europe 1 256 900
- (5) Europe 0 751 672
- (6) Walid G. Aref, et al., "On Handling Electronic Ink,"  
ACM Computing Surveys, Vol. 27, No. 4, 564-567 (December 1995).

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above-identified U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report from the European Patent Office, which is dated March 1, 2005, is enclosed.

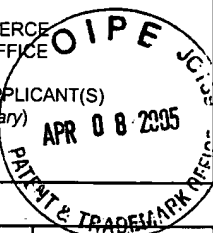
Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>00862.023455.</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/775,177</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>KEN-ICHI OHTA, et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>February 11, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>2622</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		<b>5,933,823</b>	<b>8/3/99</b>	<b>Cullen, et al.</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>6</b>	
		<b>5,486,686</b>	<b>1/23/96</b>	<b>Zdybel, Jr., et al.</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>375</b>	
		<b>4,748,678</b>	<b>5/31/88</b>	<b>Takeda, et al.</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>56</b>	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		<b>1 256 900</b>	<b>11/13/02</b>	<b>Europe</b>			
		<b>0 751 672</b>	<b>1/2/97</b>	<b>Europe</b>			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		<b>Walid G. Aref, et al., "On Handling Electronic Ink," ACM Computing Surveys, Vol. 27, No. 4, 564-567 (December 1995).</b>					
EXAMINER.				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1